

Serial No. 09/814,663  
Amdt. dated May 18, 2004  
Reply to Office Action of December 18, 2003

Attorney Docket No. LX00083

**Amendments to the Claims:**

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1. through 27. (Canceled)

28. (Currently Amended) A keypad layout for a hand-held electronic device comprising:

a plurality of keys configured for data entry of numbers and symbols of a Romanized Chinese phonetic alphabet, each key representing at least one syllable initial symbol of a syllable initial symbol group or at least one syllable semi-initial symbol of a syllable semi-initial symbol group of the Romanized Chinese phonetic alphabet.

29. (Previously Presented) The keypad of claim 28, wherein the plurality of keys includes keys "1" through "9", "0", "\*" and "#".

30. (Previously Presented) The keypad of claim 28, wherein all keys representing syllable initial symbols are grouped separate from all keys representing syllable semi-initial symbols.

31. (Previously Presented) The keypad of claim 30, wherein one key of the plurality of keys is solely designated for semi-initial symbols.

32. (Currently Amended) The keypad of claim 28, wherein at least a portion of the plurality of keys represents syllable final symbols of a syllable final symbol group.

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33. (Currently Amended) A keypad layout for a hand-held electronic device comprising:

a plurality of nine keys arranged in three rows by three columns and configured for data entry of a Romanized Chinese phonetic alphabet, each key representing two syllable initial symbols of a syllable initial symbol group of the Romanized Chinese phonetic alphabet.

34. (Previously Presented) The keypad of claim 33, further comprising a key representing two syllable initial symbols of the Romanized Chinese phonetic alphabet and a key representing one syllable initial symbol of the Romanized Chinese phonetic alphabet.

35. (Currently Amended) The keypad of claim 33, further comprising a key representing at least one syllable semi-initial symbol of a syllable semi-initial symbol group and at least one independent symbol of an independent symbol group.

36. (Currently Amended) The keypad of claim 33, wherein at least a portion of the plurality of keys represents syllable final symbols of a syllable final symbol group.

37. (Previously Presented) The keypad of claim 33, wherein the plurality of nine keys represent keys "1" through "9".

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38. (Currently Amended) A keypad for a hand-held electronic device for data entry of a Romanized Chinese phonetic alphabet, the keypad comprising:

a first set of keys representing two syllable initial symbols of a syllable initial symbol group and one syllable final symbol of a syllable final symbol group;

a second set of keys representing two syllable initial symbols and no syllable final symbols of a syllable final symbol group; and

a third set of keys representing less than two syllable initial symbols and no syllable final symbols.

39. (Previously Presented) The keypad of claim 38, wherein the first set of keys represents at least half of the keys of the keypad.

40. (Currently Amended) The keypad of claim 38, wherein the third set of keys represents at least one key that includes at least one syllable semi-initial symbol of a syllable semi-initial symbol group.

41. (Currently Amended) The keypad of claim 38, wherein the third set of keys represents at least one key that includes at least one independent symbol of an independent symbol group.

42. (Previously Presented) The keypad of claim 38, wherein the third set of keys represents at least one key that includes one syllable initial symbol and no syllable final symbols.

43. (Previously Presented) The keypad of claim 38, further comprising a fourth set of keys representing at least one key that includes two syllable final symbols.